consideration for the liberty
I have taken in addressing
you and the multitude of
questions I have submitted.

Very truly & respectfully Yours,

H. N. Lyon

P. O. Box - 169.

Los Angeles Cal.

P. S.

If at any time or for any purpose
upon obtaining seed or specimens
of plants indigenous to this
section pray consider me at
your service and only too
happy to assist you in any
possible way

U. S.

Los Angeles Cal.
June 22d

To
Prof Asa Gray

Dear Sir

I send you herewith
dried specimen and a few rough
sketches and notes of a plant new
to myself and though perhaps
well and widely known elsewhere
certainly quite new to this part of
Southern Cal. I ought to say
that from its succulent nature
it was difficult to send you
a well prepared specimen.
Root, or fruit I have been unable
to obtain and with my few poor
resources utterly unable to classify
or locate it.
Would you if not expecting too much
time and imposing too much on
your good nature render me
your services by classifying and
naming this probably (to you)

well known and common plant.
Also will you kindly tell me if
the Ice plant, Mesembryanthemum
crystallinum (common throughout Southern
Cal.). is a native of Greece
as stated by Prof A. Wood in
his "Class Book of Botany"
or is this its native habitat?
Again are there any government or
Smithsonian reports on the
Botany of the Pacific Coast
that I could obtain at small
expense, that would be likely
to assist me in my studies
and how can I obtain them.
There is no public library in
this benighted town, and my
stock is limited to "Woods
Class Book" - and a cheap bad
"Ways Manual" - both you
will recognise as wholly
unsuited to the Pac Coast
and Alas, my resources will
not permit of my sending
carte blanche to the publishers
Still again is there any
magazine or periodical published
in the United States mainly
devoted to Botany to whom
I might address such queries
and by a subscription feel that
I was not trespassing on the
time and consideration of strangers.
Twelve years ago at the time of
my migration to California I was
for a short time (when a boy)
a member of the Torrey Botanical
club and had in its distinguished
and honored President a friend
and counsellor to whom I never
addressed such questions in vain.
But ~~not~~ his death severed
the only connexion I had
in that line. and now I must
perforce ask again your kindly